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Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki is making development of a new veterans medical facility in San Joaquin County a personal issue, says the congressman who represents the area. "Secretary Shinseki assured me that the matter will have his personal attention," says Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, who met with Mr. Shinseki this week to push the VA closer to actual construction of the facility.

"One of my highest priorities for the veterans in our region is to expedite the construction of the facility in San Joaquin County," says Mr. McNerney. "Right now, some of our veterans have to travel hours to receive the care that they need. The new facility will make medical services more accessible to our veterans."

Construction of the center is expected to bring 900 jobs to San Joaquin County.